respective State Government to provide financial assistance for hospital projects keeping in view their priorities and availability of resources. However, for upgrading secondary health care system, the following five States have been provided with World Bank Assistance under the State Health Systems Projects:

(Rupees in crores)

Andhra Pradesh	600
Karnataka	546
West Bengal	698
Punjab	425
Orissa	415

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Fresh Initiatives to Check wide spread Adulteration

702. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether adulteration in edible oils and other consumer items is rampant all over the country as ravealed by the recent tragedy in Delhi due to consumption of adulterated mustard oil;

(d) if so, the details of fresh initiatives taken/proposed by Government to effectively curb the menace of adulteration;

(c) the legal steps proposed for awarding deterrent punishment for adulteration;

(d) the details of cases of adulteration registered during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise, and minimum and maximum punishments awarded; and

(e) the details of steps proposed to ensure quality of products by the Central/State certifying agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) No Sir. According to the available information from State/UT Governments, the overall extent of adulteration in various food stuffs including edible oils have been found to range between 8 to 11 percent during the last five years i.e. 1993 to 1997. The recent tragedy in Delhi due to consumption of adulterated mustard oils is c, an exceptional case.

(b) The measures proposed to contain the menace of adulteration include:—

(i) Continued sampling and quality control.

(ii) Initiating legal action under the provisionsl of the PFA Act, 1954 when instances of violation come to notice.

(iii) Educating Consumers and the traders regarding the evil of adulteration, lack of hygiene etc. and measures/ facilities available to control it.

Improving the monitoring mechanism by strengthening the Capacity of the enforcement machinery. A proposal for building enhanced in the food sector with World Bank assistance is under preparation.

(c) to (d) The Provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and the rules made there under are amended from time to time to make them more effective. In cases of proven adulteration, the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 provides for a minimum punishment of six months imprisonment and fine of Rs. 1000/- and a maximum punishment of life imprisonment with fine, depending uponthe gravity of the offence.

A Statement indicating State-wise number of food samples examined, found adulterated/ misbranded, percentage of adulteration and prosecutions launched under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 during the last three years i.e. 1995, 1996 and 1997 is at Annex-A. *[See Appendix 185, Annexure No.* 1]

(e) In so far as edible oils are concerned, government has issued a Notification on 17.9.1998, the Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order, 1998, the salient features of which provide for (1) edible oils to be sold only in packed form from 15-12-1998(2) packers to register themselves with a Registering authority for which they would need to have their own analytical facilities or adequate arrangement for testing the sample of edible oils, to the satisfaction of government and (3) all relevant particulars to be given on the containers for the information of the consumer.